Church of God
Evangel

YEAR OF GOLDEN HARVEST

May 23, 1960

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.



Vol. 51, No. 12 May 23, 1960

IN THIS ISSUE

What Is Your Motive in Serving Christ? ..... Mrs. William J. Dobben 3

Rev. J. L. DeBruin Walks Through the Fire ..... T. D. Mooneyham 4

The Cross Speaks ..... Walter C. Mauldin 6

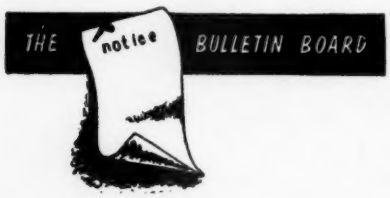
Scarlet Woman (Part 1) ..... George L. Britt 7

Parental Delinquency ..... Mrs. Charlie N. Coker 8

Our Heritage, Our Responsibility ..... Robert A. Blackwood 9

In Memoriam 13

Testimonies 14



SPECIAL NOTICE

ATTENTION, ALL MINISTERS:

The General Council will convene on Tuesday, August 16, at 8:00 a.m. Each minister should be registered by this time. In order to avoid the long lines and rush that will occur, all ministers are requested to register by mail. Send your name, state, stamped self-addressed envelop, your rank of ministry and 25c (registration fee) to the Assembly registrar immediately. The deadline is July 10! You will receive your identification badge three weeks before the Assembly unless otherwise requested. Send the above information to: David Beatty, Box 142, Vidalia, Louisiana.

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I am open for revivals. You can contact me by writing to John L. Centers, Evangelist, 103 Jasper Street, Somerset, Kentucky, or phone, 1182.

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Anyone having relatives or friends of the Church of God in the vicinity of Jamestown, New York, please contact: Rev. E. L. Atwell, Box 183, Clarendon, Pennsylvania.

COVER PICTURE

"Taking her by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha cumi'; which means, 'little girl, I say to you, arise.' And immediately the girl got up and walked." (Mark 5:41-42 RSV)

—Religious News Service Photo

CHURCH OF GOD

Evangel

Official Voice of the Church of God

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1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible. 2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor. 4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins. 5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. 6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost. 7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people. 8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart. 9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. 10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. 11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement. 12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet. 13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years. 14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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What Is Your Motive in Serving Christ?

By Mrs. William J. Dobben

WHAT IS YOUR motive in serving Christ? Webster defines motive as *"that within an individual, rather than without, which incites him to action; any idea, need, emotion, or organic state that prompts to an action."* There are many possible motives which one may have for serving Christ, and the motives may change from time to time.

Many worship God as a tradition. "My parents were Church of God and so I am, too. I just wouldn't feel right in another church," is a frequently heard statement. Force is a common motive. Many attend God's house and worship because circumstances force them to. Relatives or loved ones may coerce an individual to comply with set forms of religious practices. Some serve Christ from habit, lacking a freshness of experience in their lives. They do what they have always done because it is a pattern of living for them, and change is an uncomfortable process. Again, it is possible to serve Christ and others simply because one feels he should. Duty often compels. Another frequent motive is fear. A dread of disasters in this life or eternal punishment causes some to call themselves Christians.

There are more pleasant and enjoyable motives, however, than these. Some serve Him because it is popular. While it is not the popular thing in many areas to be of Pentecostal persuasion, in some communities it is quite fashionable. Too, the compensation received in this life for being known as a Christian is a tempting offer. Most persons' standard of living rises when they accept Christ as Lord in their life. Honor and respect are paid to them because they have taken to themselves the name of Christ.

There is an even more common motive for serving Christ than any previously mentioned. The gift of eternal life and the crown of righteousness are incentives. Some picture the Christian life here to be difficult, ugly, tortuous, and almost unbearable, but they "endure" the Christian life because of their belief that eternity holds release from the necessity of the strength of will which one must exercise here to follow the path marked by the footprints of the Saviour.

Motives for following Christ have always been problems. John 6:2 says that one multitude *"followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased."* Christ Himself told the group that followed Him after the feeding of the multitude, *"Ye seek me . . . because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled"* (John 6:26).

To be sure, any incentive or motive which brings one to an acceptance of salvation is worthwhile. No doubt every Christian became one for selfish purposes, but Christ is our perfect example and His motive in serving the human race is made plain. "For God so loved . . . that he gave" (John 3:16).

As Christ is formed in us, so our motive develops, even as the love of a baby develops when properly nurtured. The development of human love has meager beginnings. At first the baby has only self-interest. The attachment to his mother is a biological association. That is, he instinctively clings to her because she is his means of obtaining food and physical comfort. Gradually, he learns to love her because of the attention which she bestows upon him. As his association with others increases, the child learns to love his father and other members of the household. When the child is old enough to be exposed to those outside his own home, he develops likes and dislikes on the basis of common interest.

The child who continues to cling to his mother and refuses to develop a love for others is considered to be abnormal. He is spoken of as an overly protected child. But if love is nurtured, eventually the child will learn to love not only friends, but a life-mate.

The zenith of human love is found in motherhood when a mother loves a child expecting nothing in return; she just loves. The parent's love for a child is always more powerful than a child's for his parents.

Our heavenly Father is love. Who

(Continued on page 11)

SOUTH AFRICA is a land of contrasts. The physical features of the country range from high snow-covered mountains to dense tropical forests. Economically, wealth is in abundance while millions live in abject poverty. Although the caste system may not be as pronounced in South Africa as in India, yet there is no crossing over from one racial group to another. The four principal racial groups in the country may be classified as Europeans (3,000,000), Natives (10,000,000), and Indians (500,000). Religiously, the people are divided into many beliefs and practices ranging from the highest type of Christianity to the lowest form of heathenism.

Into this complex society came many thousands of Indians from India about a century ago to work in the sugar cane plantations. Most of them settled in the eastern province of Natal of which Durban and Pietermaritzburg are the largest cities. They have increased in population until now they number approximately one-half million.

It was only natural that these Indians bring their religions, Hinduism and Buddhism, along with them to the land of their adoption. As a result these eastern religions and forms of worship have been firmly established in the country.

Possibly the most spectacular feature of these religions is the fire-walking ceremony. Each year about Easter time, as the Christians commemorate the death and resurrection of Christ, the Indians have their greatest religious festivities, culminating in the fire-walking experiences.

As the season approaches, careful preparations are made. The whole idea of the participant in the worship is to show his idol or god that he is sincere and desires absolution from his sins. He is sincere, reaching upward trying to find God. But as the Bible has stated, "If the blind lead the blind, they shall both fall in the ditch." There is no way to find God except by divine revelation.

Fifteen days before the great festivities, many men and women begin a fast that continues until after they have walked through the fire. After the fifteen days of fasting, those who are to take an active part in the ceremonies go into a trance by giving themselves over completely to the power of the devil. When they are in the trance, they must be led by those who are assisting in the ceremonies. The



Rev. J. L. DeBruin

Walks Through the Fire

(A MODERN MIRACLE)

By T. D. Mooneyham

assistants take dozens of large fish hooks with offerings of citrus fruit, flowers, and milk tied to each, and hook them in the flesh of those who are in the trance. They are hooked all over the nude body, front and back, from the shoulders to the waist, until many pounds are pulling on the flesh and weighting the body down. Sometimes the worshiper pulls a cart down the street by a fish hook fastened in the flesh of his hip. The tongue is stretched outside the mouth and a huge spike about five or six inches long is stuck through it. Then other spikes pierce through the cheeks from one side to the other. Yet, in all this there is not one drop of blood. When the hooks are removed after the ceremony, there are no scars. The devil takes care of that.

With the offering of fruit, flowers, and milk and their inflicted bodies, the worshipers are led up a flight of 30 steps to the entrance of the temple where they present themselves before the idol just to show him they are sincere in their worship. (What a challenge in sincerity and devotion this should be to the Christian!) When this is completed, many of them confess their sins over a small piece of paper, strike a match to it, put it on a banana leaf, and let the water of the Umgeni River carry it away to the Indian Ocean.

Finally it is time for the fire-walking to begin. From early morning a huge heap of logs has been burning. The fire to light the wood was brought from the temple by one who was in a trance after having received the sanction and blessing of the priest. A pit a few feet wide, twenty-seven feet long, and several inches deep is dug to be filled with red hot coals for the ceremony. Those who are to participate are led to the edge of the pit where the priest helps them into the fire. Then they walk through alone, still in a trance, with the offerings hooked in their bodies and the spikes through their tongues. Many times their eyes are rolled back until nothing can be seen of them but the whites. It is truly devil worship in one of its grossest forms.

THESE fire-walking ceremonies are widely known throughout South Africa and many Europeans or white spectators attend each season. In 1959 one of our Full Gospel Church of God ministers, Reverend J. L. de Bruin (a white man), went to the festivities in Durban with several hundred feet of film to take pictures. Some of the readers may know Brother de Bruin. He was in the States in 1957 for three months and preached in several of our churches. He is the pastor of one of our largest churches in South Africa in the capital city of Pretoria. I have had the privilege of visiting with him and preaching for him several times. What I am going to relate to you now was told to me by Brother de Bruin. Many leading newspapers of South Africa also carried the story. Furthermore, I saw it on the screen with my own eyes.

Brother de Bruin had been following the different events of the day taking many pictures. The things I have described are on his film. At the close of the ceremonies while he was taking pictures of those walking through the fire and seeing the manifestations of the devil's power, the Spirit of God began to move on him. He went to where the priest was and got into a discussion. The priest told him the necessary qualifications for walking through the fire, which were the same as I have previously stated. Brother de Bruin said to the priest that he had been a Christian minister for twenty-four years, that he had seen drunkards, harlots, and all types of rough characters come to an altar and through faith in Jesus Christ a work of grace was done in their hearts, and their lives were changed forever. He also gave witness to the healing power of Christ. He said that through prayer and faith in Christ in his own ministry he had seen cancers fall off faces, the crippled made to walk, blinded eyes opened, and various other diseases healed. He further said that it did not take fifteen days of fasting and going through all the contortions the others were undergoing for him to walk through the fire, because a person did not merit things from the God he served, but that we obtain by grace through faith. While he was yet speaking and the Spirit of God was upon him, he reached down and took off his shoes. When the priest saw what was happening, he tried to persuade Brother de Bruin not to do it, saying that other men had tried it who had not made the necessary preparations and they had been badly burned. With the Spirit of God still upon him, Brother de Bruin reached down and took off his socks. As he walked up to the entrance of the pit, the heat was so great it would have scorched his face under normal circumstances. After standing at the entrance for a moment, he looked up to heaven and said a short prayer as Peter said on one occasion, "God help me." And God manifested His power.

Another man who was taking pictures got the one of Brother de Bruin as he went through the fire. (I saw it on the screen.) When he walked through that twenty-seven feet of coals, the Indians ran to him and examined his feet, but not a scorch nor blister could they find. They challenged him to walk through it again, and with the Spirit of God still upon him, he accepted their challenge. That was not enough. They challenged him to go through it the third time. After walking through eighty-one feet of fire, there was still no blister.

When he was relating the incident to me, he said, "Brother Mooneyham, it was just like walking on a gravel road."

We do not have to go back to historical accounts of Bible days for a proof of God's power. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8).

Another European man who had witnessed this event said, "If he can do it, I can, too." The man was not a Christian. By the time he got halfway through the pit, he ran out the side, his feet burning. He had to be taken to the hospital.

Truly our God is great. Many miracles such as this humble our hearts and stimulate our faith.

The Cross Speaks

By Walter C. Mauldin

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God," 1 Corinthians 1:18.

WHAT! DOES the cross of Christ ever say a word? At one time I thought it was silent and speechless and never uttered a word, but after study I find it rings out surprising and unspeakable utterances, and tells a story to the world that man has never been able to fully comprehend.

Some would say the cross is but a tombstone for a dead Christ, but to the Christian world it is a beginning point in a new life to follow our lovely Lord. It is a place for one to start a new reality with God. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24).

The Material Cross

Many times the cross is not a delightful sight, but it is the duty of the Christian to follow instructions and shoulder his responsibilities. A look at the cross empowers one to do this without fear and to overcome the battles of life.

Yes, all of us know of the material substance of the cross, but none can deny its eternal object and purpose in mind as it produces the spiritual and shows forth the eternal. Its main aim and goal in its existence is for the salvation of the soul of man. "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God."

It Speaks of Love

The whole world is in search of love. Everyone from the child in the cradle to the aged man in the wheelchair is starving for it. Where will man find this cherished and invited delight? It is something born in the nature of man that he desires it and he will possess this characteristic as long as there is breath within him. It is a natural craving within man. Does he find love in the material? No! Does he find it when he beholds the beauties of nature as he makes the search? Turn to the world in its entirety and it offers nothing but hate.

Then let us make a visit to a little place called Calvary and upon this hill we find the cross of Christ. We hastily say, "Cross of Christ, where is love for my starving soul?" The cross in its gentle manner, but yet so frank, speaks words to cherish and makes us offer gratitude to God: "I have been pointing to God nearly 2,000 years; one of my fingers point to the heavens above. One finger points to the right, one to the left, and my other finger points down. In this you will notice that I point to all directions telling the world that God is everywhere and He is love, for God is love."

How amazing to note these truths and to know that love held Christ to the cross. He had power to come down from the cross, but He loved us and finished His work through His death before He was taken down, and that by others.

It Cries for Mercy

Behold its beauty and we see none in the cross, until we think again, and then beauty springs forth as darkness flees away at the sparkle of the sun for a new day. To the repenting sinner coming to God and looking at the wonderful sight, man asks for mercy and asks God, "What do you say about it, God? Do you forgive me and forget sins of my wicked soul?" God immediately looks over at the cross of His dear Son and He is reminded of His agony on it and speaks with mercy that echoes throughout the heavens, the astounding word, "Forgiven!" This word means more to man than any other word. As this announcement is made in heaven, it starts a time of rejoicing. A celebration begins because a sheep has returned to the fold; a lost sheep has been found. "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance" (Luke 15:7).

It Directs Us Home

A lad was lost one day and was taken to a policeman. Being so small, he could not give his father's name, the street on which he lived, or even the name of his

(Continued on page 11)

A CHRISTIAN INTERPRETATION OF

THE TIMES

SCARLET WOMAN

(Revelation 17)

By George L. Britt

AFTER CENTURIES of status quo among nations, now within one generation we behold a world thrown into a whirlpool of violent agitation and change. There have been sudden and radical changes not only in the scope of scientific knowledge and moral standards, but also in governmental systems and religious trends.

To those not guided by the Holy Scripture, the picture becomes more confusing and complex every day. Only those who believe and understand the prophetic Scriptures can understand the perplexities of our time.

The omnipotent hand of Providence is arranging the world stage for the last act of the drama of this age. Every important change in world affairs is falling perfectly into the prophetic pattern for the end of this age.

One of the most astounding prophetical truths in the Scriptures is the revelation that world empires would not continue to build on the ruins of previous world empires; with the breakup of Rome into the toe nations (A.D. 476), they would cease to cleave one to another, but remain separate nations (Daniel 2:43). This happened just as the Scripture revealed; they were fanatically nationalistic for nearly 1,500 years. Then in Revelation it is revealed that these nations will cleave together for a short time in the very end of this age (Revelation 17:12-17). This cleaving together began in 1957 as the European Common Market Nations, comprising 280,000,000 people.

In Scriptural symbolism this last gentile federation is represented by a scarlet colored beast with seven heads and ten horns (Revelation 17:3). In Revelation 17:12 we are told that these horns are kings or rulers. Then in verse 17 it is revealed that these rulers form a federation by agreeing to let the beast or antichrist rule over them for a short time. Therefore, the Scriptures interpret the scarlet beast to represent a federation of nations in the territory of old Rome ruled by the antichrist.

Astride this beast is seen a notorious woman clothed in purple and scarlet, decked with gold and precious stones, and a cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication (Revelation 17:3, 4). Here enters a mystery which has baffled Bible students for centuries. In fact, her symbolic title is: "MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." Although God does not literally spell her actual name, He gives enough earmarks so we can know beyond doubt who she is.

In Revelation 17:1 she is said to sit upon many waters. Verse 15 tells us that the many waters are "peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues." To begin with, God lets us know that this woman is an organization in the realm of human affairs which has power over many nations, peoples, and tongues. This organization which functions in many nations could not literally sit upon the antichrist's government of federated nations. This could mean nothing but that this organization will be upheld by the political government and be co-ruler with the political government. This organization which has power over peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues is symbolized by a woman. Let us remember that although the prophetical Scriptures are filled with symbols, yet these symbols are not used in an indiscriminate and confused manner, but are used in a consistent manner throughout the Scripture. In the Scripture a woman is a symbol of a religious system. Backslidden Israel is symbolized by an adulterous woman (Hosea 2). The true church is symbolized as a virgin espoused to Christ (2 Corinthians 11:2). Therefore, not by prejudice, neither by speculation, but by the Scriptures the field of possibilities is being narrowed in identifying this mystery woman.

This woman is a religious system. She presents a good facade to the eyes of the unregenerate world. She is arrayed in purple and scarlet and decked with gold, precious stones, and pearls. In other words, she has an imposing front, great tangible assets, imposing edifices, and power over millions. In fact, she is one to be courted by a man or a government who aspires to world power. Verse 2 states that

(Continued on page 10)

Parental Delinquency

Mrs. Charles N. Coker

THERE IS MUCH talk and many discussions from religious groups and civic organizations about juvenile delinquency. They are striving for ways to cope with this shocking news of crime and sin that is sweeping our land today. All of this is good and valuable information and has been given out to help solve this problem, but one thing that is needful for us is to get down to the root of the problem. Let us take a look on how the Bible tells us to cope with such problems.

Since authorities tell us that most of the trouble of juvenile delinquency is the lack of parental guidance in the home, this is evidence that parents should do something to help solve this problem. In 2 Peter 5:1, 2, Peter exhorts the elders to feed the flock of God. Listen! We as parents have a personal flock right in our homes.

History teaches us that Peter was a married man and that children were born in his home. According to Mark 1:30-34, Peter's home was used for a meeting place for people to bring their sick to Jesus for healing of soul and body. From this, we can be assured that his home was a home of peace and love. Peter also said in 2 Peter 5:1 that he, too, was an elder. Now an elder is one who exceeds another in age, rank, or station. He also can be one who is authorized to superintend the spiritual interests of the church. Surely before he takes over this interest of the church, he should be able to superintend spiritual interests in his home as stated in 1 Timothy 3:12.

In 2 Timothy 1:1-5, we are reminded that mothers also play a vital part in the spiritual training of their children. We as mothers and fathers cannot shift our spiritual responsibility of our children to the church or Sunday School. The church and Sunday School with all of their spiritual force can never take the place of the family altar in the home. With the rush of modern living today, family altars no longer have their place in many Christian homes.

Since we believe that neglect of a family altar is the main reason for our national problem, let us now look at some of the things that have crowded this spiritual interest out of our homes. First of all, let us take the unruly member of the body which is the fiery tongue. In James 3:6, we are told that this fiery member of the body sets on fire the course of nature. How true it is that children like to follow the pattern of life that their parents follow. Knowing that children imitate us as parents, how much more careful should we be about what this fiery member of the body says.

Long before the invention of radio and television, the tongue was at work destroying the confidence of children. Husbands and wives engaging in ungodly conversation and loud and angry words of bitterness and cursing have influenced children to commit sin. Strong drink and the use of tobacco and dope have added their sickening odors to these unpleasant situations of the home. Then to add to all this ungodliness, dark movie houses and drive-in theaters have lured parents and children into more sinful things. Even when places of worldly amusement are not attended, convenient movie programs and shows that are ungoverned are coming into homes by means of television and radio. Also ungodly literature floods our American homes today. We as Christians stand by and almost close our eyes to these ways that the devil is capturing our boys and girls. It is time that we lift our voices against sin and retreat to the old landmark of holy living.

The civic and church groups alike have built playgrounds, youth centers, and recreation halls in hopes of giving our youth enough social activity, but even with all these efforts, crime and sin are rising more and more and growing worse all the time.

The family altars have lost significance in even so-called Christian homes today. Since all other methods have failed to solve this situation of our youth, we as Christians must take our rightful places at the old-fashioned family altar and there teach our children the commandments and ordinances of God through love and understanding for God's Word. In Deuteronomy 12:19, the Israelites were commanded to teach their children the commandments of God everywhere, walking, sitting, or lying down. We as Christians should not fall short of this commandment. If we neglect our duty to our children, who knows but that some of these problems of juvenile delinquency may come from our very homes.

Lord help us to regain spiritual strength for ourselves and our children so that we can help others find the peace of Christ that passeth all understanding.

"Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame," 1 Corinthians 15:34.

Our Heritage, Our Responsibility

By Robert A. Blackwood

THE THIRD generation of Church of God children is developing into full strength and new numbers are being added every day. As this takes place, it is well to review the characteristics of past generations and appraise those of the present.

Our recent emphasis on the golden anniversary of missions and the *Evangel* has brought to mind the great contributions made by the founders and pioneers of our church. We are profoundly affected by the earnestness of their endeavor and the fervor with which they preached the gospel.

The successes that were enjoyed in those early years are a constant reminder of the fact that it is the Spirit of God which brings results. Their astounding revivalistic efforts give rise to wonderment even now. All of this is made more wonderful when one realizes the obstacles which had to be hurdled.

One naturally thinks of the resistance of established church groups to such radical departures from long emphasized doctrines and methods of worship. This is not to mention the impediments created by outright sinners. The preacher of those years was hard-hitting and forthright in his presentation of the Word. Therefore, it was to be expected that the devil would resist wherever the work of the Lord was progressing.

The really challenging thing, however, was the ostensible lack of preparation, from an educational viewpoint; yet the results were little short of phenomenal. Those of us who have been associated with the Church of God for many years realize that the typical preacher of earlier years was characterized by his plain speech and enthusiasm. He did not possess a high degree of literacy. The chances are that he taught himself to read with the assistance of the Holy Ghost. The fact remains that he was utterly dependent upon the power of God for understanding. Thus he spent many hours in his "secret closet." This resulted in Spirit-filled services in which sinners were convicted and often ran to an altar to find that Christ really would save them from sin.

The persecutions borne by the first generation of Church of God workers were as a wind that fanned the fires of evangelism. Every convert became an ambassador for Christ. They were apt to learn the Word, often in prayer, and continually active in soul-winning. Thus the church grew. This was the first generation.

The second generation, at the insistence of ambitious parents, placed greater emphasis on formal education. A background which included much emphasis on prayer and frequent attendance at camp meetings and other conventions had to be reconciled to a new environment.

In his new setting, the typical representative of this generation discovered the excitement of life away from home, the exhilaration of new-found knowledge, and the uneasiness of first contact with seriously conflicting viewpoints. This was a time for adjustment and re-evaluation, the formulation of a viewpoint that seemed reasonable, yet consistent with that which he had learned from his family and church.

This was not always an easy task. To be sure, there were some who plunged off the deep end of their new discoveries. The majority, however, reacted like honest inquirers of any generation. They found guidance in the Word through prayer. Many of this group are providing the leadership of the church today. This is powerful testimony of the adequacy of the Word and the Spirit-filled life.

What about this third generation? It is destined to follow rigid

lines of formal education. It will be bombarded by the most complex system of communications media ever created, and exposed to world-wide influences never dreamed of by past generations.

This means that our Christian training will compete with all these influences. This is the crux of our problem. Millions of man-hours are devoted to making television interesting to our young people. Thousands of books, newspapers, magazines slant all or a part of their efforts toward this same group. What are we doing to counteract these influences?

We examine our feeble efforts in this direction and are embarrassed by their inadequacy. As parents, we have given our children to professionals who may or may not inculcate Christian principles in their minds. We allow their leisure to be utilized by non-Christian influences. Frequently, we have forsaken the family altar. The result is an appalling lack of Christian education.

If you are in doubt concerning our ignorance of Christian principles as revealed in God's Word, try these tests on your closest friend. Ask him how much time he has spent in reading his Bible in a given week. Then have him compare that with the time he spends on other things. This is only a starter. You may take your line of questioning as far as you like.

The terrifying aspect of this new generation is its vast knowledge about this wide world and the things in it. Of places, things, and people, they know much. One has only to discuss inter-continental ballistic missiles with one of them to be convinced of this.

But what of spiritual things? In most instances, the most rudimentary question about God's kingdom and His righteousness goes unanswered. The nature of sin, the plan of salvation, the evidences of a Spirit-filled life are only vague concepts associated with the church. The how and why of these things are known to a few only. Why?

One explanation lies in our willingness to let the other fellow do the job of training. Today, we have the personnel for doing the job of training in our Sunday Schools and Young People's Endeavors. The potential is there. The fact remains, however, that we still find it difficult to interest qualified workers in the task. This is to our shame.

Any pastor will attest to the truth of our observation about the lack of workers. The important question is "Why?"

Perhaps we have lost true perspective. This can be determined by self-analysis. Do we make the Bible an integral part of our daily living? Is praying an incessant part of our daily routines? Have we forgotten that spiritual attainment is to be had by those who are willing to partake of the suffering of Christ? Is it any wonder that Jesus told His followers that some obstacles could be surmounted only in the wake of prayer and fasting?

Many of us know the discouragement of unsuccessful efforts to motivate others in the area of Christian training. The lethargy that we meet is appalling. Yet we must continue our efforts to put the kingdom of God first in the minds of all our people. In times of frustration, we discover that it is "not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord." This formula is still operative and is the only unfailing way to bridge the gap.

It is not enough that we can discuss current events intelligently, earn a handsome living, and qualify for a high degree of respectability in our communities. Our literacy carries a responsibility for evangelizing the world for Christ, beginning at home.

Frequently we vow willingness to go anywhere, to do or say anything the Lord desires. The shameful thing, however, is that only a small percentage of us really mean it. Where are you when prayer meeting is in session? What do you say when asked to teach a Sunday School class? How do you respond when confronted by a sinner who needs the story of Jesus?

The idea of witnessing for Christ is one of the most frightening things you can mention to many people. This is the duty where many of us falter. We feebly excuse ourselves by disclaiming any ability to talk to others. It is to be wondered if fear and lack of vision are not the real reasons. The attainment of a Spirit-filled life will do wonders for those who cannot quite make the riffle in witnessing. Our ability to communicate what we have learned about the kingdom of God is a large part of the over-all responsibility that we bear.

Certain members of the Corinthian Church were plagued by similar inadequacies. Paul wrote them in the following manner: "Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame" (1 Corinthians 15:34). We have an awesome responsibility for spreading the knowledge of God. Christian training in the home and in our churches is the place to begin. It is also to our shame that millions in this wide world of ours know nothing about God. Let us awake to our responsibilities and add zeal to our efforts. This is the thanks that we can give for such a glorious heritage.



SCARLET WOMEN

(Continued from page 7)

the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her. Because of her great influence and political power, kings have courted her favor and committed spiritual fornication by embracing her false doctrines and have received in return great political assistance. The field of possibilities is still narrowing.

IN THE SECOND and third chapters of Revelation, God, by way of a message to seven churches, gives a preview of the history of the Church from the apostolic age to the end of the church age. God said that something had developed in the very first church age which He hated (Revelation 2:7). God designated this thing that He hated as "the deeds of the Nicolaitanes." Scofield, in his footnotes, says this term is derived from two words the meaning of which is "to conquer the people." There was a desire by some in the first church age to establish

a priesthood to lord it over the people. In the third church age these "deeds" had become a "doctrine of the Nicolaitanes" (Revelation 2:15). Here God repeated that He hates this doctrine. This subtle heresy which began as deeds and progressed into doctrine has in the forth church age developed into a full-fledged religious system or church (Revelation 2:20).

Jezebel was the vilest woman known in the Old Testament. This religious system was so repulsive in God's sight that He designated it as Jezebel. He said she called herself a prophetess and seduced his servants to commit fornication. The marks of identification are crystal clear. This woman Jezebel of the dark ages in Revelation 2 is identical with the scarlet woman of the end time in Revelation 17. She called herself a prophetess by declaring her pontiff's word superseded the Bible. She taught spiritual fornication by adulterating the pure Christian doctrine with Babylonian cultism, making intercession to saints and worshiping relics. In Revelation 17 she is plainly called a great whore, the mother of harlots.

God said He gave her space to repent and she repented not. We know by history He gave her centuries in which to repent. He even sent great reformers, but she obstinately refused to hear them and slew many of them. The dedication of John Huss could not move her. The holiness of Savonarola could not touch her. The firm bold stand of Luther could not turn her away from her whoredom. The eloquence of Zwingli and Calvin could not change her. The reformers crippled her, but she is to enter the great tribulation with great political power.

There is only one religious system which has existed for centuries, which has power in many nations and is especially the dominant power in the United States of Europe. If we are to understand the Scriptures, we cannot be intimidated by popular opinion and political trends in the part of the world in which we happen to live. The Scriptures never apologize; they just state facts. According to the Scriptures, this scarlet woman can be nothing but the Roman Catholic Church.



THE CROSS SPEAKS

(Continued from page 6)

neighbor. The policeman continued to ask if he lived near certain places, certain parks, or places of interest. Then all of a sudden, the boy remembered a big cross near his home and said, "Take me to the big cross and I can get home from there." They took him to the cross and he immediately found his home.

We are to be reminded of the cross of Christ. Let us go there, and from the presence of it, we can find our way to our heavenly home. Without its directions, we would be eternally lost. Thank God for the old rugged cross.



WHAT IS YOUR MOTIVE IN SERVING CHRIST?

(Continued from page 3)

among the sons of men can ever love God a thousandth part of the love which God has manifested to us. When God loved, He loved a world. We have no capacity for love in so great a measure. Yet, did not Christ demand every string of the human heart, every faculty of the soul, and every action of strength in this incident? "*'Teacher,' he said, 'what is the greatest command in the law?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with your whole heart, with your whole soul, and with your whole mind. This is the greatest and chief command'*" (Moffatt Translation). We were loved before the foundation of the world, and a reasonable question would be, "How can my love for Him be acceptable to Him?" Christ living within the Christian produces spiritual growth. Christ lifted up in our heart will redeem our feelings, emotions, and passions by the love, grace, and understanding of the Son of God. Contention has no hold on us, passion no place in us, hatred nor misunderstanding no expression through us when Christ is lifted up in our hearts.

Goethe says, "We are shaped and fashioned by what we love." As Christ is formed in us and we experience spiritual growth, we begin to learn to love Him who first loved us. When we love Him, His love is shed abroad in our hearts and we are fashioned after His likeness.

"I may speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but if I have no love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal; I may prophesy, fathom all mysteries and secret lore, I may have such absolute faith that I can move hills from their place, but if I have no love, I count for nothing; I may distribute all I possess in charity, I may give up my body to be burnt, but if I have no love, I make nothing of it. Love is very patient, very kind. Love knows no jealousy; love makes no parade, gives itself no airs, is never rude, never selfish, never irritated, never resentful; love is never glad when others go wrong, love is gladdened by goodness, always slow to expose, always eager to believe the best, always hopeful, always patient. Love never disappears.

"When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I argued like a child; now that I am a man, I am done with childish ways.

"At present we only see the baffling reflections in a mirror, but then it will be face to face; at present I am learning bit by bit, but then I shall understand, as all along I have myself been understood. Thus 'faith and hope and love last on, these three,' but the greatest of all is love. Make love your aim, and then set your heart on spiritual gifts" (1 Corinthians 13:1-7, 11-13; 14:1—*Moffatt Translation).*

What kind of a person will you be in ten, twenty or thirty years? That answer can be seen now by your habits, your observing or ignoring high morals, by your business practices, by your social relations, by your selfishness or unselfishness, by your home life, by your reading, by your recreation, by the way you keep the Ten Commandments and practice the Golden Rule, by the place Christ has in your life. —*D. Carl Yoder*



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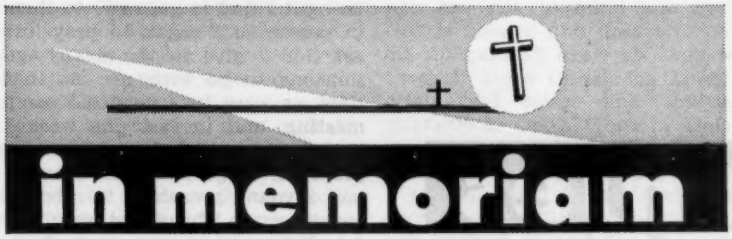
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GARRETT

Mrs. Etta Garrett, age 86, departed this life on Sunday night, January 24, 1960.

She leaves to mourn her passing 6 sons, 3 daughters, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and a host of relatives and friends.

We believe Grandma, as we called her, has gone from this old world of sorrow and trouble to a land of one eternal day where cometh no night and where there is no sorrow, tears, or pain.

Her funeral was conducted at the Hiawassee Church of God, where she was a member, by Gordon Mize, Emerson Davenport, and William Daily.

—Mrs. Arvel Garrett, daughter-in-law

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ASBEL

Naomi Asbel, age 51 years, departed this life November 16, 1959, to be with her Lord whom she loved. Her funeral was conducted by Rev. R. F. Kirkland and Rev. G. D. Prince at the Land O'Lakes Church of God of which she was a member. Interment was in Finay Junction Cemetery.

She leaves to mourn her loss 3 sons, 2 daughters, her father, grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends.

—Mrs. Leavy Johnson, reporter

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BAILEY

On December 12, 1959, our mother, Mrs. Alice Jane Bailey, passed away at the Medical Center Hospital in Odessa, Texas. She had been in the hospital 2 weeks, but had not been well for several months. She was lovingly cared for in her last days by the nurses and her faimly. She did not appear to suffer any; she merely went to sleep in the arms of Jesus. Even though our hearts were sad, there was a heavenly feeling in her room, and we were comforted by the presence of the Lord. We are confident that now she is resting peacefully, awaiting the morning of the resurrection when we shall join her to meet the Lord. She was a member of the Church of God in Odessa and loved all her pastors, and they were kind to her. Brother L. P. Foster, the present pastor, was so good to visit and help her. She appreciated him so much.

She would have been 84 years old on January 3. She is survived by 3 sons and 6 daughters, 14 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, 1 brother, and 3 sisters. Her funeral was conducted at her home community near DeLeon, Texas, by her pastor, Brother Foster, and her son-in-law, W. H. Henry.

—Mrs. W. H. Henry, daughter

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HOWELL

After a long sickness, Martha Edith Howell departed this life and went home to be with Jesus. She was a faithful member of the Pine Grove Church of God. She was 52 years old.

Left to mourn her passing are 5 daughters, 4 sons, 2 brothers, and many grandchildren and friends.

The funeral was conducted by her pastor, W. G. Pearson. Interment was in Fairview Cemetery.

—Martha Pearson, reporter

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LEE

The Dowling Park Church of God was saddened by the sudden passing of one of its pioneer members and faithful workers, Sister Annie Lee, on December 27, 1959. She was 53 years of age.

Sister Lee received salvation and joined the Dowling Park Church of God in March, 1936, when the church was first organized. She was faithful to God and the church until the very last night of her life here on earth. She is now enjoying the sweet rest that God has promised those who are faithful until the end. She worshiped and served God with the hidden man, the heart.

The funeral was conducted on December 28, 1959, at 2:00 p.m., at the Dowling Park Church of God by her pastor, Rev. Henry Wiltkins, who was assisted by Rev. Earl J. Dees, pastor of the Live Oak Church of God.

—Mrs. Frances E. Baker, reporter

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CLAXTON

J. V. Claxton passed away to be with Jesus on January 8, 1960. Brother Claxton was 48 years old. He was a faithful minister; he never missed a service and always tried to get everybody there who did not have transportation.

Brother Claxton will be greatly missed by the church and also by his many friends and his companion. Brother Claxton was always good to everyone.

He is survived by his wife, Sister Eula Claxton, 2 daughters, and 3 sons.

—A. L. Brantley, reporter

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GEARY

We at the Church of God at Rockport, Kentucky, were saddened by the death of Brother Lincoln Geary who passed away June 30, 1959, at the Veterans Hospital in Louisville. His death was due to a heart and lung condition. He was a faithful attendant at the Rockport Church of God. The church misses him very much, but we know our loss is heaven's gain.

Survivors include his faithful wife, Lena, 2 daughters, 1 son, 4 grandchildren, 2 sisters, and 4 brothers.

The funeral was conducted at the Echols General Baptist Church, Thursday, July 2, 1959, with Rev. Bob May, assisted by Rev. Henry Baize, officiating.

We will always remember the wonderful life our dear brother lived.

—Alma Geary, clerk

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FRAZIER

The Darlington, South Carolina, Church of God was saddened by the sudden and unexpected death of Brother Charlie L. Frazier in November of last year.

Brother Frazier was a member of the local church for 17 years and was one of the most faithful members of his church. He served as clerk for 5 years, Sunday School superintendent for 8 years, and trustee for 13 years.

Funeral services were conducted at the Darlington Church of God with his pastor, Rev. W. A. Bell, and Rev. J. T. Lisenby officiating.

The people of Darlington feel heavily the loss of this fine Christian.

—W. A. Bell, pastor



✓Praises God for Every Blessing

BAXLEY, Ga.—I want to sound a note of praise to my dear Lord and Saviour for touching my stomach so wonderfully. I know that it is all through Him that I am so much better and I do thank God for it. Also I want to thank the people at Zion and everyone else who prayed for me.

I also want to thank God for saving, sanctifying, and baptizing me with the sweet Holy Ghost and for every good blessing.

—Mrs. Barney Ahl

— — —

✓Thanks God for Healing

PORTSMOUTH, Va.—I promised God if He would take me through a recent mastoid operation and heal me that I would write a letter to the *Evangel* and thank God. I thank God for healing me so many times.

I love to read the *Evangel*.

—Mrs. Joel Jushie

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✓Praises God for Healing, Salvation, Sanctification, and Baptism of the Holy Ghost

HOMERVILLE, Ga.—I had suffered for 5 years with what the doctor said was a serious heart condition. I was paralyzed much of the time. I would be walking some time and would fall helpless as a baby. Being a Christian, my wife kept praying with all the dear saints. I got better and decided to go to church. I was paralyzed in the church that night. I could not get up, so my boys came over to lift me up and take me out. They could not move me. The saints of God began praying for me and there I surrendered to God, promising Him if He would save me and heal my body I would live and testify for Him wherever I went. God saved me, sanctified me, and gave me the sweet Holy Ghost. Praise His sweet name. Brother J. B. Robinson was our pastor at that time and he earnestly pleaded God's mercies for me.

Dear friends, let me point you to the Lamb of God who knows about you who are suffering in sin and body. Won't you let Him set you free?

—Nayon Smith

— — —

✓Praises God for Answering Prayer

LITHIA, Fla.—I am writing a testimony to praise God for answering prayer. He has helped me wonderfully through an operation. It means so much to have the prayers of the saints.

—Mrs. Marvin Jones

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✓Appreciates the Leading of the Lord

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Young people today have more opportunities than I had as a Christian. There were not any prayer meetings; our only chance to go to church was once a month and there were no night services.

I remember very well an opportunity I had as a young woman back in 1908. When the Lord sanctified me, we were living in Alabama and my people were in Georgia. I thought I had to get news to them in person so I began to pray and ask God to give me the means and someone to go with me. At that time we were in a good old camp meeting, and in just one week I had a dear old lady, who was a preacher, to go with me. We also had 2 young preachers to offer to go with us, so I furnished train fare for all four of us and my 2 children. I thought my people would grasp the opportunity like I did, but they did not.

I did not feel I was called to preach, but I felt a burning desire to carry the gospel and I still have it. If I were still a young woman, I would do more for the Lord than I have done. That is my one regret. Now I am old and am not able to do much, so my advice to you young people is to be true to the Lord. I know there is more to draw you away from Him than I had, but God has been good to me and I love Him.

We older ones cannot go and do for the Lord like you young people can, but we can live our Christian lives at home. Someone is watching our lives. We all make mistakes, so take every opportunity you can and you will not regret it.

This was my testimony back in 1908 and I have tried to live by it all through the years.

—Sister Leesie O'Kelley

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✓Appreciates God's Blessings

I would like to praise the Lord for His many blessings to me and for answering my prayers. I praise Him for healing my little boy.

I want to live a life before my family and my lost loved ones that it will be a light and not a stumbling block. I want to be a helping hand to those in need.

—Dorothy Dungan

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✓God's Word a Source of Strength

COLUMBUS, Ohio—I have been receiving the *Evangel* and *The Lighted Pathway* for the past few months. They are a source of great spiritual comfort and inspiration to

me. God's Word and His Spirit have encouraged and strengthened me many times during this past year in which I have suffered much physical pain and many disappointments. I believe every word of God's Holy Bible, and know that His Word is true. I know that God's precious Son, Christ Jesus, both saves souls and heals bodies and minds. Jesus has healed my mind and body many times during the past ten years, and saved me from death many times, both bodily and spiritually.

I was once saved and filled with God's wonderful Holy Ghost, and had the privilege and experience of attending Berean Bible Institute in San Diego, California, for one year. Now I have been committed to an institution. I have been praying much and am finding my way back to God. I know that within my heart and mind, and before God, that I am innocent of my charge and sentence. But it must be God's plan to have permitted my commitment to this institution, so that I would realize how far I was out of His will, and to try me and test me, and to enable me once again to take Jesus' hand, and in faith believing, know that He will save my soul to the end, and give me life everlasting. I believe and have faith to believe and know that all from this institution, clear my name of this sentence, and reunite me with my wife and children.

God is using this opportunity to test and try me. I thank God that my faith has been renewed and that God is giving me abundant faith to believe and know that all things are possible in Him. For as Jesus said, "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that I will do." One of my daily prayers is Psalm 139:23, 24, "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

I thank God for His precious son, Jesus Christ, for the precious blood of Jesus that cleanseth us from all sin, and for the mercy and grace of God through Christ Jesus that saves our souls. I give this as a testimony to those who have met seemingly hopeless obstacles, and who are sick in mind and body. God is able to and does overcome all things, and heals all sickness, through Jesus Christ the Lord. I often find solace and spiritual strength in God's Word in Isaiah 41:10, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

I am now unable to personally help guide my family. I request your prayers that God will save my soul, my wife's soul, and the souls of our four children, and that God will use us to serve Him for His glory and the glory of His kingdom forever.

—Ralph Woodgeard

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✓Praises God for Mother's Healing

CORNELIA, Ga.—I want to write a few words of testimony for God's healing power. For several years my mother was bothered with a cancer on her face; it never seemed to get much better in spite of all the doctors did. She asked for prayer at her church and I asked the people of our church to help me pray for her healing. Now she appears to be healed and I thank and praise God for it.

—Frank Curtis

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✓Appreciates God's Healing Power

LOXLEY, Ala.—I promised the Lord nearly 4 months ago if He would heal me of something that had come on my body, which was hopeless without an operation, that I would write my testimony to the *Evangel*. The Lord did the work, and I have not suffered from that anymore. Praise Him for His healing power. He has healed me many, many times. *—A sister in Christ*

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✓Resolves to Do More for God

HOLLANDALE, Miss.—As the old year slipped out and the new one began, I purposed in my heart to do more for the Lord and live closer to Him than I have in the past. I am praising Him because He found me when I was lost in sin. As I remember how He has kept and blessed me during the past year, and I have done so little for Him, it gives me the "go ye" spirit. I am determined by His help to do more for Him and seek a closer walk with Him. He has done much for me and I am awaiting His return. *—Lovetta Sanders*

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✓Receives Immediate Healing From God

CLARENDON, Pa.—I would like to give my testimony in the *Evangel* for the healing of my body. I feel that it is God's will.

My back had bothered me for some time. Later I found that I had curvature of the spine. I had prayed much about it. One night we were having revival meetings in our church and were really feeling the Spirit. A sister in the church touched my back and God immediately healed me. I have not felt pain in my back since May of 1959. I praise God for it.

—Miss Eleanor Haight

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Jesus Said, "I Will . . ."

ASHLAND, Ky.—I am glad now that I am keeping my promise to write to the *Evangel*. A large knot came in the right side of my breast and caused soreness even to the upper part of my arm. At night I could hardly rest. I asked the people of the Catlettsburg District churches and also my pastor, Rev. Frank Standifer, to intercede to God for me. One day the Scriptures spoke to me, "If thou will, Lord ..." and He said, "I will." That night our pastor anointed me and prayed. Jesus said, "I will," and He healed me. I praise Him for His great love and mercy to me.

—Mrs. Sam Eary

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✓Receives Healing Touch From God

I want to praise the Lord for touching my body when I laid the *Evangel* on me and prayed. I want all who believe in prayer to pray for the complete healing of my body. *—Lois Grice*

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